

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04593 141602Z
ACTION CU-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /019 W
-----102952 141605Z /53

O 141547Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
VOA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
SECSTATE WASHDC 8997

UNCLAS MOSCOW 04593

FOR: IBS/PS, IBS/PE, IBS/PW, IEU

STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/EE

SUBJECT: PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PERFORMS IN RIGA

1. (BEGIN TEXT) RIGA MARCH 14. THE NEW YORK PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CAPTIVATED A CAPACITY AUDIENCE LAST NIGHT IN RIGA'S PHILHARMONIC HALL. THE 12 YOUNG AMERICAN STRING VIRTUOSI, DIRECTED BY RAFAEL ADLER, PERFORMED WORKS BY JOHANN CHRISTIAN BACH, NORMAN DELLOJOIO, FELIX MENDELSSOHN, AND BELA BARTOK.

2. CONCERT MASTER ROBERT MCDUFFIE, THE YOUNGEST MEMBER OF THE ENSEMBLE AT 19, HAD THE AUDIENCE AS MUCH UNDER CONTROL AS HIS VIOLIN, AS HE PLAYED THE PROFOUND SOLO IN BARTOK'S RUMANIAN DANCES, THE FINAL WORK ON THE PROGRAM. THE PROLONGED RHYTHMIC APPLAUSE WHICH FOLLOWED BROUGHT THE ORCHESTRA BACK FOR BOW AFTER BOW, WITH MAESTRO ADLER WALKING DOWN THE LINE OF BEAMING MUSICIANS, SHAKING THE HANDS OF THE YOUNG MEN AND KISSING THE YOUNG WOMEN. FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE AUDIENCE'S ACCOLADE, ADLER WALKED TO THE FRONT OF THE STAGE AND, IN LATVIAN, THANKED HIS LISTENERS AND ANNOUNCED THE FIRST OF TWO ENCORES,
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04593 141602Z

THE FINAL TWO MOVEMENTS OF GRIEG'S HALBERT SUITE. THE APPLAUSE COULD ONLY BE STILLED WHEN, AFTER A LIGHT-HEARTED PERFORMANCE OF A SCOTT JOPLIN RAG, THE VISITING AMERICANS FINALLY LEFT THE STAGE.

3. THE PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, FOUNDED EIGHT YEARS AGO BY MAESTRO ADLER, IS DEDICATED TO PERFORMING LITTLE-

KNOWN WORKS, BY BOTH CONTEMPORARY AND CLASSICAL COMPOSERS.
LAST NIGHT'S CONCERT INCLUDED DELLOJOIO'S PULITZER-
PRIZE WINNING MEDITATION ON ECCLESIASTES AS WELL AS
MENDELSSOHN'S LATELY REDISCOVERED NINTH SYMPHONY - THE
SWISS.

4. BESIDES ITS PATH FINDING REPERTOIRE AND
HIGH LEVEL OF MUSICIANSHIP, THE PRO-ARTE'S TRADEMARK IS
ITS YOUTHFUL INFORMALITY AND THE FRIENDLY, EASY GOING
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MUSICIANS AND CONDUCTOR WHICH HAS
BEEN SO EVIDENT TO THE AUDIENCE HERE AND IN LENINGRAD.
THIS TALENT APPLIES AS WELL TO REHEARSALS, WHERE EVEN
QUESTIONS OF INTERPRETATION ARE DECIDED THROUGH A
PROCESS OF GIVE AND TAKE.

5. THE PRO-ARTE RETURNS TO THE STAGE IN RIGA WEDNESDAY
EVENING AT 2000 BEFORE LEAVING FOR VILNIUS, KAUNUS,
MINSK, GOMEL', KIEV, MOSCOW AND TULA ON THE CONTINUATION
OF ITS CURRENT TOUR OF THE SOVIET UNION. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MUSIC, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW04593
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780113-0530
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780371/aaaacige.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 55e6f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3341254
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PERFORMS IN RIGA
TAGS: SCUL, US, UR, PRO-ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
To: USIA VOA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/55e6f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014